

a gateway computer arranged to receive said request message from said handset over said telecommunications network and to retransmit said request message;

a funds issuer computer arranged to receive said request message and to debit a consumer account associated with said smart card; and

an authentication computer arranged to receive said request message and to authenticate said smart card, whereby said smart card may be authorized to load said value.

2. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 1 wherein said telecommunications network is a wireless network.

3. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 2 wherein said request message is integrated with the Short Message Service (SMS) channel of said telecommunications network.

4. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 1 wherein said authentication computer authenticates said smart card using a first cryptographic signature and generates a second cryptographic signature to authenticate a load response, whereby said transaction is secured.

*5. (Once Amended) A smart card loading system for loading value over a telecommunications network onto a smart card, said smart card loading system comprising:

a mobile telephone handset in communication with said telecommunications network, said handset including a card reader for communicating with a smart card arranged to be inserted in said handset, and an input interface for indicating a value to be loaded onto said smart card, said handset being arranged to generate a funds request message which includes an authorization request certificate;

a gateway computer arranged to receive said funds request message from said handset over said telecommunications network and to retransmit said funds request message;

a funds issuer computer arranged to receive said funds request message, to authenticate said smart card using said authorization request certificate, and to generate an authentication response certificate for delivery to said smart card, whereby said smart card may validate said authorization request certificate and load said value, wherein the smart card is able to interface with a point-of-sale terminal through a contact interface with the point-of-sale terminal.

6. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 5 wherein said telecommunications network is a wireless network.

7. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 6 wherein said funds request message is integrated with the Short Message Service (SMS) channel of said telecommunications network.

8. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 5 wherein in response to a successful load, said handset is arranged to generate a transaction certificate to be used for irrepudiation.

*9. (Once Amended) A method of loading value over a telecommunications network onto a smart card and transacting a purchase with said smart card, said method comprising:

receiving at a mobile telephone handset a request from a user to load a value onto said smart card inserted in said handset;

generating a funds request message which includes said value;

sending said funds request message over said telecommunications network to a funds issuer computer arranged to debit an account associated with said user;

generating a load request message including a first cryptographic signature;

sending said load request message over said telecommunications network to an authentication computer arranged to authenticate said smart card;

receiving a response message which includes a second cryptographic signature and an approval to load; and

validating said second cryptographic signature; [and]

loading said value onto said smart card;

placing said smart card in contact with a point-of-sale terminal to provide a contact interface with said point-of-sale terminal; and

using said point-of-sale terminal to debit said smart card to perform a purchase.

10. A method as recited in claim 9 wherein said telecommunications network is a wireless network.

11. A method as recited in claim 10 wherein said messages are integrated with the Short Message Service (SMS) channel of said telecommunications network.

12. A method of loading value over a telecommunications network onto a smart card, said method comprising:

receiving at a mobile telephone handset a request from a user to load a value into a stored-value application of said smart card inserted in said handset;

opening a second application on said smart card capable of funding said stored-value application;

generating a funds request message which includes said value and an authorization certificate;

sending said funds request message over said telecommunications network to a funds issuer computer arranged to authenticate said second application and to generate an authentication response certificate;

receiving a response message which includes said authentication response certificate;

validating said authentication response certificate; and

loading said value onto said stored-value application of said smart card from said second application.

13. A method as recited in claim 12 wherein said telecommunications network is a wireless network.

14. A method as recited in claim 13 wherein said messages are integrated with the Short Message Service (SMS) channel of said telecommunications network.

15. A method as recited in claim 12 further comprising:

generating a transaction certificate to be used for irrepudiation.

16. A purchasing system for purchasing an item over a telecommunications network, said purchasing system comprising:

said telecommunications network for providing communication between entities;

a mobile telephone handset in communication with said telecommunications network, said handset including a card reader for communicating with a smart card arranged to be inserted in said handset, and an input interface, said handset arranged to generate an order request message;

a merchant server computer arranged to receive said order request message and to generate a purchase instruction message intended for said handset;

a payment server computer arranged to receive a draw request message from said handset, to generate a debit message intended for said smart card, and to confirm payment by said smart card to said merchant server computer, whereby said item is purchased over said telecommunications network and may be released to a user associated with said smart card.

17. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 16 wherein said telecommunications network is a wireless network.

18. A smart card loading system as recited in claim 17 wherein said messages are integrated with the Short Message Service (SMS) channel of said telecommunications network.

*19. (Canceled)

*20. (Canceled)

*21. (Canceled)

*22. (Canceled)

REMARKS

Claims 5 and 9 have been amended. Claims 19-22 have been canceled. Claims 1-18 are pending.

Claims 5 and 9 have been amended to recite that the smart card is able to interface or does interface with a point-of-sale terminal through a contact interface with the point-of-sale terminal. This is supported by page 7, lines 24-27, that says that the smart card can interface with a point-of-sale terminal, and by page 8, lines 24-26, that says that a contact interface is possible.